GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6075
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2002
DEMAND OF COAL
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether demand for coal has fallen much below the target of 412 million tonnes in the Ninth Five Year Plan to only 354 million tonnes;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether less number of coal-based power plants are coming up; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to enhance use of coal in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL & MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. The overall sluggish growth in the economy and non-materialsation of envisaged new coal-based thermal power generation capacity had adversely affected the estimated coal demand in the IX Plan.

(c)&(d): As per report of the Working Group for Xth Plan, 19,565 MW coal based power generation capacity is expected to be added during the Xth Plan period. The capacity addition programme is expected to give a boost to coal demand during the Xth Plan.